

Amendments to the Claims

The following is the listing of Claims and their present status. All claims being currently amended are marked up to show the changes made relative to the immediate prior version.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A winding apparatus for winding an elongated cargo strap into a coil, which is used with a strap winch that is mounted beneath a trailer, where the strap winch includes a U-shaped bracket having two spaced legs connected by an integral cross member and a drum suspended between the legs around which the cargo strap is wound and tensioned during normal use,

the winding apparatus comprising: an elongated cantilever; and a removable crank, the cantilever having a first end and a second end, the first end of the cantilever being adapted for mounting to the strap winch, so that the second end of the cantilever extends laterally beyond the trailer when the cantilever is connected to the strap winch, the second end of the cantilever being adapted for receiving the crank in a winding position, so that the crank may be manually turned to wind the cargo strap into the coil around the crank, the cantilever includes sides having a plurality of scallops formed along a bottom edge thereof, the first end of the cantilever restrictively held to the strap winch with the drum seating within one of the plurality of scallops when the cantilever is mounted to the strap winch, whereby the plurality of scallops constitutes means for selectively seating the cantilever to the strap winch in one of a plurality of mounting positions.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Original): The winding apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the second end of the cantilever includes a pair of spaced ears, each of the pair of ears has an opening therein for receiving the crank, whereby the cargo strap is wound around the crank into the coil between the pair of ears when the crank is fitted to the second end of the cantilever and manually turned.

Claim 4 (Previously Amended): The winding apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the crank includes an elongated shaft, a handle extending from the shaft, and an elongated strap bar extending from the shaft so that the strap bar is spaced over the shaft and

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extends axially parallel to the shaft.

Claim 5 (Original): The winding apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the first end of the cantilever also being adapted for receiving the crank in a storage position therein when not used to wind the cargo strap into the coil.

Claim 6 (Original): The winding apparatus of Claim 5 wherein the first end of the cantilever includes a first plate and a second plate, each of the first plate and the second plate having an opening therethrough, the crank extends through the openings in the first and second plates when in the storage position.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The winding apparatus of Claim 6 wherein the cantilever also includes a side, the side having two detents protruding therefrom, the crank includes an ~~elongate~~ elongated shaft, a handle extending from the shaft, and an elongated strap bar extending from the shaft so that the strap bar is spaced over the shaft and extends axially parallel to the shaft,

the strap bar overlying the side and restrictively seated between the two detents to secure the crank to the cantilever when in the storage position.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): In combination, a strap winch mounted beneath a trailer and including a U-shaped bracket having two spaced legs connected by an integral cross member and a drum suspended between the legs around which the cargo strap is wound and tensioned during normal use; and

a winding apparatus used in association with the strap winch for winding the cargo straps into a coil and including an elongated cantilever and a removable crank, the cantilever having a first end and a second end, the first end of the cantilever being adapted for mounting to the strap winch, so that the second end of the cantilever extends laterally beyond the trailer when the cantilever is connected to the strap winch, the second end of the cantilever being adapted for receiving the crank in a winding position, so that the crank may be manually turned to wind the cargo strap into the coil around the crank, the cantilever includes sides having a plurality of scallops formed along a bottom edge thereof, the first end of the cantilever restrictively held to the strap winch with the drum seating within one of the plurality of scallops when the cantilever is mounted to the strap winch, whereby the plurality of scallops constitutes means for selectively seating the cantilever to

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the strap winch in one of a plurality of mounting positions.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Original): The winding apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the second end of the cantilever includes a pair of spaced ears, each of the pair of ears has an opening therein for receiving the crank, whereby the cargo strap is wound around the crank into the coil between the pair of ears when the crank is fitted to the second end of the cantilever and manually turned.

Claim 11 (Previously Amended): The winding apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the crank includes an elongated shaft, a handle extending from the shaft, and an elongated strap bar extending from the shaft so that the strap bar is spaced over the shaft and extends axially parallel to the shaft.

Claim 12 (Original): The winding apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the first end of the cantilever also being adapted for receiving the crank in a storage position therein when not used to wind the cargo strap into the coil.

Claim 13 (Original): The winding apparatus of Claim 12 wherein the first end of the cantilever includes a first plate and a second plate, each of the first plate and the second plate having an opening therethrough, the crank extends through the openings in the first and second plates when in the storage position.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The winding apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the cantilever also includes a side, the side having two detents protruding therefrom,

the crank includes an ~~elongate~~ elongated shaft, a handle extending from the shaft, and an elongated strap bar extending from the shaft so that the strap bar is spaced over the shaft and extends axially parallel to the shaft,

the strap bar overlying the side and restrictively seated between the two detents to secure the crank to the cantilever when in the storage position.

Please add as new Claim 15:

15 (New). A winding apparatus for winding an elongated cargo strap into a coil, which is used with a strap winch that is mounted beneath a trailer, where the strap winch includes a U-shaped bracket having two spaced legs connected by an integral cross

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member and a drum suspended between the legs around which the cargo strap is wound and tensioned during normal use,

the winding apparatus comprising: an elongated cantilever; and a removable crank, the cantilever having a first end and a second end, the first end of the cantilever being adapted for mounting to the strap winch, so that the second end of the cantilever extends laterally beyond the trailer when the cantilever is connected to the strap winch, the cantilever also includes a side, the side having two detents protruding therefrom, the first end of the cantilever also being adapted for receiving the crank in a storage position therein when not used to wind the cargo strap into the coil, the first end of the cantilever includes a first plate and a second plate, each of the first plate and the second plate having an opening therethrough, the crank extends through the openings in the first and second plates when in the storage position, the second end of the cantilever being adapted for receiving the crank in a winding position, so that the crank may be manually turned to wind the cargo strap into the coil around the crank,

the crank includes an elongated shaft, a handle extending from the shaft, and an elongated strap bar extending from the shaft so that the strap bar is spaced over the shaft and extends axially parallel to the shaft, the strap bar overlying the side and restrictively seated between the two detents to secure the crank to the cantilever when in the storage position.